

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A golf ball comprising:

a center core component formed from a first composition comprising a sulfur cured cis-1,4 polybutadiene and a sulfur curing agent;

at least one core layer disposed about said center core component thereby forming an intermediate ball, said core layer formed from a second composition comprising a at least one material selected from the group consisting of cis-1,4 polybutadiene, polyisoprene, EPR, EPDM, styrene-butadiene rubber, natural rubber, and mixtures thereof; and a peroxide curing agent; and

at least one cover layer disposed about said core layer thereby forming said golf ball.

2. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said center core component has a diameter of from about 0.35 inches to about 1.20 inches.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The golf ball of claim 2 wherein said center core component is free of zinc diacrylate carboxylic acid salt.

4. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said core layer has a diameter of from about 1.450 inches to about 1.650 inches.

5. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said golf ball has a Shore D cover hardness of from about 35 to about 90.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said polybutadiene utilized in at least one of said first composition and said second composition has a cis-1,4 content greater than 90 percent.

7. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said center core component has a specific gravity of from about 1.0 to about 1.8.

8. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said center core component exhibits a specific gravity of less than 1.0.

9. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said center core component comprises microballoons, cellular foam materials, or combinations thereof.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said polybutadiene has been sulfur cured with a sulfur curing agent ~~comprises comprising~~ at least one of N-oxydiethylene 2-benzothiazole sulfenamide, N,N-di-orthotolylguanidine, bismuth dimethyldithiocarbamate, N-cyclohexyl 2-benzothiazole sulfenamide, N,N-diphenylguanidine or combinations thereof.

11. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said first composition also comprises an accelerator.

12. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 11 wherein said accelerator comprises at least one of mercaptobenzothiazoles, sulfenamides, dithiocarbamates, thiuram sulfides, guanidines, thioureas, xanthates, dithiophosphates, aldehyde-amines, dibenzothiadyl disulfide, N,N'-dicyclohexyl-2-benzothiadylsulfenamide, hexamethylenetetramine, mercaptobenzothiazole, tetramethylthiuram disulfide, tetraethylthiuram disulfide, tetrabutylthiuram disulfide or combinations thereof.

13. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 1 wherein said peroxide curing agent comprises at least one of dicumyl peroxide; 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(*t*-butylperoxy) hexane; 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(*t*-butylperoxy) hexyne; 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(benzoylperoxy) hexane; 2,2'-bis(*t*-butylperoxy)-di-iso-propylbenzene; 1,1-bis(*t*-butylperoxy)-3,3,5-trimethyl

cyclohexane; *n*-butyl 4,4-bis(*t*-butyl-peroxy) valerate; *t*-butyl perbenzoate; benzoyl peroxide; *t*-butyl peroxy-3,5,5 trimethylhexanoate or combinations thereof.

14. (CANCELED)

15. (CANCELED)

16. (CANCELED)

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A golf ball comprising:

a centrally disposed inner core component comprising a sulfur cured cis-1,4 polybutadiene ~~and a sulfur curing agent~~, said inner core component having a Shore A hardness of from about 60 to about 90;

at least one core layer disposed on said inner core component, said core layer having a generally uniform thickness and comprising a at least one material selected from the group consisting of cis-1,4 polybutadiene, polyisoprene, EPR, EPDM, styrene-butadiene rubber, natural rubber, and mixtures thereof; and a peroxide curing agent, said core layer having a Shore D hardness of from about 40 to about 60; and

at least one cover layer disposed on said core layer.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The golf ball of claim 17 wherein ~~at least one of said polybutadienes in said inner core component and said core layer have said polybutadiene has a cis-1,4 content greater than 90 percent.~~

19. (ORIGINAL) The golf ball of claim 17 wherein at least one of said inner core component and said core layer comprises a blend of at least two polybutadienes.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The golf ball of claim 17 wherein said inner core component is free of zinc diacrylate carboxylic acid salt.

Please add new claims 21 to 23 as follows:

21. (NEW) The golf ball of claim 17 wherein said polybutadiene has been sulfur cured with a sulfur curing agent comprising at least one of N-oxydiethylene 2-benzothiazole sulfenamide, N,N-di-orthotolylguanidine, bismuth dimethyldithiocarbamate, N-cyclohexyl 2-benzothiazole sulfenamide, N,N-diphenylguanidine or combinations thereof.

22. (NEW) The golf ball of claim 17 wherein said peroxide curing agent comprises at least one of dicumyl peroxide; 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(*t*-butylperoxy) hexane; 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(*t*-butylperoxy) hexyne; 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(benzoylperoxy) hexane; 2,2'-bis(*t*-butylperoxy)-di-iso-propylbenzene; 1,1-bis(*t*-butylperoxy)-3,3,5-trimethyl cyclohexane; *n*-butyl 4,4-bis(*t*-butyl-peroxy) valerate; *t*-butyl perbenzoate; benzoyl peroxide; *t*-butyl peroxy-3,5,5 trimethylhexanoate or combinations thereof.

23. (NEW) The golf ball of claim 17 wherein said first composition also comprises an accelerator.